Amendments to the Specification

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 17 and replace it with the following:

FIG. 1 is a schematic drawing of a digester system according to an embodiment of the invention.

FIG. 2A is a top view of a digester tank that may be used in embodiments of the invention.

FIG. 2B is a section view of the digester tank in FIG. 2A.

FIG. 3A is a top view of a digester tank that may be used in embodiments of the invention.

FIG. 3B is a section view of the digester tank in FIG. 3A.

FIG. 4 is a schematic drawing of a digester system according to an embodiment of the invention.

FIG. 5 is a schematic drawing of a digester system according to an embodiment of the invention.

FIG. 6 is a flow diagram of a method of digesting materials according to an embodiment of the invention.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 1 as follows:

With reference to Figures 5 and 6, the ~~The~~ procedure for system (100) start up is that all of the tanks (2, 4, 6 & 8) are filled with the waste water at S100. This is done by closing valve (9) and allowing tank (8) to fill until it reaches the point where the level indicator (34) is actuated. This stops the inflow into tank (8) by closing valve (7) and begins to fill tank (6). This tank (6) again fills until the level indicator (33) is actuated and closes valve (5) stopping the flow into tank (6) and begins to fill tank (4). Tank (4) fills until it reaches the point where the level indicator (32) is actuated and closes valve (3) causing tank (2) to begin to fill. Tank (2) again fills until it reaches the point where the level indicator (31) is actuated and close valve (1).

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 10 as follows:

At this point the system is full and held like this for a specified time at S105 as determined by the operator to begin the bacterial growth phase. Once the allotted time has passed tank (8) is emptied at S110 and held in this drying condition for a specified time as selected by the operator at S115. When the allotted time has passed valve (7) is opened by the time and tank (6) is drained into tank (8) at S120 until the level indicator in tank (8) is actuated and closes valve (7). Now tank (8) is again full and tank (6) is empty. Tank (6) is held in this drying condition for an allotted amount of time as determined by the operator at S125. After the specified time has passed the timer actuates valve (5) and begins to fill tank (6) and empty tank (4) at S130. Tank (4) is again held empty for a specified time for its drying event at S135 and then the timer will actuate valve (3) and begin to fill tank (4) again and empty tank (2) at S140. Tank (2) is held empty for a specified time as determined by the operator at S145. When the allotted time has passed the timer will actuate valve (1) and allow untreated grey water from the fat floatation system to flow into tank (2) at S150. This system of sequencing the filling and emptying of the tanks (2, 4, 6, & 8) continue indefinitely. The times for the drying events are dependent upon the water analysis of the water leaving the system at valve (10). Valve 10 is normally open during operation and only closed if purging the tanks becomes necessary. Once the appropriate time has been determined the system will continue in this cycle for as long as desired.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 28 as follows:

One final purge system has been added to this process for the purpose of cleaning the tanks if necessary. This system consists of a pump ~~(14)~~ and valves ~~(11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, & 21)~~. These valves are manually set by the operator to provide for flushing the tanks (2, 4, 6, & 8) by pump ~~(14)~~ if and when needed. They can be energized in any sequence that will allow for back flushing the required tank and then switching the valve so the pump ~~(14)~~ can then empty the tank this will allow the removal of mineral sediment and the transfer of this sediment to a lagoon or marsh land area. These valves can also be switched so that they allow the water from the bottom of any one of the tanks (2, 4, 6, & 8) by pump ~~(14)~~ and then pumped to the top of any one of the tanks (2, 4, 6, & 8). This will allow for the water to be trickled through the tank that is desired and increase the microbial activity and contact with the surface area of the filter medium.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 9 as follows:

This system has 3 optional systems. The first option is that atmospheric air can be drawn in through a check valve ~~(25)~~ if found to be required under normal activity. This would only be needed if the flow of air into the system was not sufficiently supplied by the vent stack or that the fumes coming out of the system were not desirable. Normally any vent air should have no odor or minimal odor associated with it due to the aerobic activity in the digester system. However, if this does become a problem the vent stack would be closed and the air would be drawn in through the check valve ~~(25)~~ and leave through another valve ~~(26)~~ and travel to the lagoon and be exited the system under water to filter out unwanted odor. This normally will not be a problem, but is included in the design for situations that may require this to be done.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 19 as follows:

The last optional system is one to provide the microbial community nutrients if they require it. Some material such as fat may require the addition of small amounts of limiting nutrient to provide for the effective degradation of the fat. If this becomes a problem, a tank ~~(23)~~, and pump ~~(24)~~ will be added to supply liquid nutrients to the process system.